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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference HH/CS 52712	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Form PCT/IPEA/416	
International application No. PCT/SE2004/000449	International filing date (day/month/year) 24-03-2004	Priority date (day/month/year) 27-03-2003
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC G06F 17/60		
Applicant TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON (publ) et al		

- This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
- This REPORT consists of a total of 4 sheets, including this cover sheet.
- This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:
 - ☒ (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 5 sheets, as follows:
 - ☐ sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).
 - ☐ sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.
 - ☐ (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in computer readable form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

- This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. I | Basis of the report |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. II | Priority |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. III | Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. IV | Lack of unity of invention |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Box No. V | Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VI | Certain documents cited |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VII | Certain defects in the international application |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Box No. VIII | Certain observations on the international application |

Date of submission of the demand 30-08-2004	Date of completion of this report 27-06-2005
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/SE Patent- och registreringsverket Box 5055 S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Facsimile No. +46 8 667 72 88	Authorized officer Jan Silfverling /itw Telephone No. +46 8 782 25 00

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (January 2004)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/SE2004/000449

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- ☐ This report is based on a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
 - ☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
 - ☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:

- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 1 - 19 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- pages _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- pages* 20 - 24 _____ received by this Authority on 14 - 02 - 2005
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- pages 1 - 4 _____ as originally filed/furnished
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/SE2004/000449

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	<u>1-17</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	<u>1-17</u>	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	<u>1-17</u>	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)

New amended claims have been filed.

Documents cited in the International Search Report:

D1: US 20020156732
D2: US 20020138601
D3: WO 02/080061
D4: WO 99/31610
D5: WO 02/102016

New claims 1 and 10 relate to a method and a transaction router in a system for purchases of content over a public communication network.

D1, which is considered to be the most relevant document, shows a method and a system for doing business over a network (see claims 1, 3-4, 9, and 14). D1 describes a method similar to the method in claim 1, where a node, a "service mediator", corresponding to the "transaction router" in the claim, has contact with customers, operators and content providers. The customer sends a purchase request to the content provider who sends the desired service to the service mediator. The service mediator checks if the customer is allowed to purchase and sends, if the customer is approved, the desired service to the customer and handles the invoicing.

The difference between the invention according to new claims 1 and 10 and D1 is that in claim 1 and 10 it is stated that the content provider sends a URL network address to the customer

.../...

Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: BOX V

terminal to connect the customer with the transaction router for performing a purchase dialogue. Therefore, the invention according to claims 1 and 10 is new.

D2 shows a method and a system for doing business over a network (see claim 1). D2 shows a proxy, which has contact with content providers and customers. The customer sends a purchase request to the proxy, which checks the customer and approves the purchase. The content provider then sends the service to the approved customer.

However, D2 does not show that an URL address is sent from the content provider to the customer terminal. Therefore, it is not considered to be obvious for a person skilled in the art to arrive at the invention according to claims 1 and 10 when knowing document D1 and D2.

The invention according to claims 1 and 10 is therefore considered to involve an inventive step.

D3-D5 relate to similar methods and systems as D1-D2, but are not showing the invention according to claims 1 and 10.

The invention according to claims 1-17 is therefore new and considered to have inventive step and industrial applicability.

CLAIMS

1. A method of supporting purchases of content over a public communication network from a content provider to a customer
5 using an access operator for communication, as a server controlled by the content provider receives a purchase request for content over said public network from a terminal operated by the customer, **characterized by** the following steps:
- 10 - the content provider server sending a purchase indication message to a transaction router to indicate the purchase request and ask for validation of the purchase, the transaction router having established a trusted relationship with the content provider and with the access operator,
15 - the content provider server sending a URL network address to the customer terminal to connect the customer with the transaction router for performing a purchase dialogue,
- the transaction router validating the requested purchase in response to said purchase indication message, including
20 checking whether the access operator approves the requested purchase and asking the customer to confirm the purchase during said purchase dialogue,
- the transaction router sending a purchase validation status to the content provider server including the status
25 of the access operator's approval and the customer's purchase confirmation, and
- the content provider delivering content to the customer according to the requested purchase, if the purchase has been properly validated by means of the provided purchase
30 status,
such that the access operator can charge the customer for the purchase.

2. A method according to claim 1, **characterized in** that the access operator charges the customer for the purchase by means of a subscription bill or a pre-paid card.

5

3. A method according to claim 1, **characterized in** that said purchase validation status is sent in response to a purchase status request from the content provider.

10

4. A method according to any of claims 1-3, **characterized in** that validating the requested purchase further includes identifying the operator based on received customer identification for the customer.

15

5. A method according to claim 4, **characterized in** that said customer identification is any of: a telephone number, a network address or a subscription identity.

20

6. A method according to claim 4 or 5, **characterized in** that validating the requested purchase further includes identifying the customer based on said received customer identification.

25

7. A method according to any of claims 1-6, **characterized in** that a purchase confirmation is received after prompting the customer in the purchase dialogue.

30

8. A method according to any of claims 1-7, **characterized in** that a charge request for the purchase is sent from the content provider to the transaction router when the content has been delivered.

9. A method according to any of claims 1-8, **characterized in** that each of said established relationships includes a business agreement and necessary technical interfaces.

- 5 10. A transaction router having an established trusted relationship with each of a plurality of content providers and each of a plurality of access operators, respectively, wherein the transaction router is adapted to act as a common payment mediator between said operators and said content
10 providers for content purchases over a public communication network, **characterized by:**

means for receiving a purchase indication message from a content provider server, said purchase indication message indicating that a content purchase is requested over the
15 public network from a terminal operated by a customer using an access operator for communication,

means for performing a purchase dialogue with the customer who is connected to the transaction router by means of a URL network address sent from the content provider
20 server,

means for validating the requested purchase in response to the received purchase indication message, by checking whether the access operator approves the requested purchase and asking the customer to confirm the purchase during said
25 purchase dialogue, and

means for sending a purchase validation status to the content provider server including the status of the access operator's approval and the customer's purchase confirmation,

30 such that the content provider can deliver content to the customer according to the requested purchase if the purchase has been properly validated by means of the provided

purchase status, and the customer can be charged for the purchase by the access operator.

11. A transaction router according to claim 10,

5 **characterized in** that said validation means includes means for identifying said access operator and said customer based on received customer identification.

12. A transaction router according to claim 10 or 11,

10 **characterized in** that the transaction router is adapted to register the purchase including storing purchase information.

13. A transaction router according to claim 12,

15 **characterized in** that the transaction router is further adapted to send the purchase status in response to a purchase status request from the content provider.

14. A transaction router according to any of claims 10-13,

20 **characterized in** that the transaction router is further adapted to receive a charge request for the purchase from the content provider, as the content has been delivered.

15. A transaction router according to any of claims 10-14,

25 **characterized in** that the transaction router is further adapted to perform identification and authorisation of the customer, in order to validate the requested purchase.

16. A transaction router according to any of claims 10-15,

30 **characterized in** that the transaction router is further adapted to prompt the customer in said purchase dialogue to receive a purchase confirmation.

17. A transaction router according to any of claims 10-16,
characterized in that each of said established trusted
relationships includes a business agreement and any
5 necessary technical interfaces.